MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 APRIL 1982

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Cabinet Decision -- The Cabinet decided on 21 April that the Sinai withdrawal would be completed on time, Jerusalem radio reported citing a minister who participated in the Cabinet session. Israel has received appropriate responses to its request for clarifications from Egypt and the United States, and all Egyptian violations of the peace treaty have been corrected, according to the minister.

Mubarak Message -- Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has sent a response to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's recent message, MENA reported. In his reply letter Mubarak promised that Egypt will abide by the solution to the Palestinian problem stipulated in the Camp David accords, will cooperate in preventing arms smuggling via Sinai to terrorist organizations in the Gaza Strip and will cooperate in general against terrorism, according to Jerusalem radio.

IDF Attack on Lebanon

On 20 April Israeli planes on a routine patrol over the Sidon area were fired upon by antiaircraft guns and hand-held missile launchers, but the planes were not hit, IDF radio reported citing an IDF spokesman. One Israeli soldier was killed and another wounded when their vehicle went over an antitank mine laid during the night on a dirt road near At-Tayyibah, Jerusalem radio reported citing an IDF announcement. Israel regards the firing on Israeli patrol planes and the mining action as "grave violations" of the cease-fire agreement, according to Tel Aviv's HA'ARETZ and Jerusalem radio.

Citing "clear provocations" the government instructed the IDF to launch a "counterattack" on three "terrorist" targets in Lebanon south of Beirut and northeast of Sidon, IDF Radio reported citing an IDF spokesman. The port of Ad-Damur and "terrorist concentrations" in villages and towns in southern Lebanon were also hit, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio also noted that "terrorist" radar installations along the Lebanese coast were hit. Reports that Israeli Navy boats are attacking Ad-Damur in Lebanon were denied by an IDF spokesman the radio said. A state of alert has been declared in the area of the northern settlements, the radio said. Citing Lebanese radio, Jerusalem radio reported that a Syrian fighter was shot down by Israeli Air Force planes. The radio also said that Syrian surface-to-air missiles were fired at Israeli Air Force planes flying over Al-Biqa. The planes were not hit, the radio added.

Israel

Syrian Missile Firing -- On 19 April, a surface-to-air missile was fired from a hand-held launcher from Syrian territory at an Israeli Air Force plane on a routine training flight over the Golan Heights, IDF radio reported citing an IDF spokesman.

Abu-Hatzera, TAMI Plans -- Labor and Social Welfare Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzera has informed Begin of his intention to resign his Cabinet post, Jerusalem radio reported. The decision has to be approved by the TAMI Party's institutions, Abu-Hatzera told the radio's correspondent. The party will continue as a member of the coalition, Jerusalem television reported citing Abu-Hatzera.

Iran

Opposition to Shari'atmadari -- The Qom Teachers Association accused Ayatollah Kazim Shari'atmadari of participating in the recent coup plot that also involved former Prime Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, according to a statement broadcast by Tehran radio. The statement linked Shari'atmadari with other subversive activities and declared that he should be removed as a symbol to be imitated by Muslims. The Tehran guild affairs committee endorsed the Qom

Teachers Association statement, and Iran's committee of bazaar tradesmen expressed support for a decision by members of the Qom theological school to strip Shari'atmadari of his title of guide, the highest honor in the Shi'ite hierarchy, according to Tehran radio and AFP reports.

Soviet Apology -- The Soviet Union apologized to the Iranian Government for an incursion into Iran by Soviet and Afghan troops on 6 April, Minister of National Guidance 'Abdolmajid Ma'adikhah stated at a 15 April press conference in London reported by the Pakistani paper DAWN.

Trade Agreements -- Letters of agreement on an annual and 5-year trade exchange, a sales and cooperation protocol on oil and documents regarding banking facilities were signed following talks between a Pakistani economic delegation and Iranian officials, Tehran radio reported. The volume of trade between the two countries this year will increase to about $600 million, Commerce Minister Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman stated in an interview carried by the radio. He added that oil would represent Iran's main export item.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Three Iraqi planes were shot down in the Abadan region, bringing the total since 21 March to 35, according to a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio. An Iraqi military spokesman denied Iranian claims that three Iraqi planes were downed, conceding the loss of only one plane, INA reported.

Mediation Efforts -- Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) Secretary General Habib Chatti returned to Tehran for the second time in 20 days to hold talks with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati as part of the ICO's mediation efforts, IRNA reported. Chatti, Guinea President Sekou Toure and other members of the Islamic Good Offices Committee subsequently arrived in Baghdad to continue the committee's peace mission, INA reported. Commenting on the committee's efforts, the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT stated that there are great possibilities for some kind of agreement being reached within the next few days.

Gulf Affairs

The GCC has decided to use its good offices to unify Arab ranks and resolve Arab differences in order to confront the challenges posed by the "Zionist threat," according to a statement reported by SPA following the conclusion of the GCC foreign ministers meeting in Riyadh. The council also declared its support for all efforts being made to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia and India noted with great anxiety the situation in Afghanistan and called for a "just and comprehensive" solution to the situation based on the withdrawal of all foreign forces, according to a joint communique broadcast by Riyadh radio at the conclusion of Indian Prime Minister Indira Ghandi's visit to Saudi Arabia.

Afghanistan

Afghan rebels have declared the valley of Nurestan "a free state," Karachi's DAWN reported. Islamic guerrillas announced in Peshawar that a month ago they executed Soviet geologist Mikhail Yevgeniy Okrimyuk after failing to win the release of political prisoners held by the Kabul regime, AFP reported.

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AFP: SOVIETS 'BOMBARD' PAGHMAN MOUNTAINS

BK201652 Hong Kong AFP in English 1548 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] New Delhi, 20 Apr (AFP) -- Soviet jets bombarded three villages in the strategic Paghman mountain range, about 20 kms northwest of Kabul, last Friday, inflicting heavy damage, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

The sources, who constantly monitor developments in strife-torn Afghanistan, however, could not give details of casualties.

The jets flew low and dropped bombs on Uriakhal, Khaldari and Darrah-ye Pashai villages for an unspecified period.

The villages fall within the Paghman mountain range where the Moslem rebels are trying to set up supply routes to rebel-held areas in the adjoining provinces, earlier reports had said.

The diplomats here reported clashes between the rebels and the Soviet-aided Afghan Government troops at the Karga Lake near Paghman on April 13. At least six government soldiers were reported killed. Insurgent casualties were not immediately known.

The government troops, spearheaded by a Soviet armoured column, however, succeeded in penetrating Paghman on April 16. The penetration followed house-to-house searches for rebels and arms by the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) volunteers aiding the army.

The diplomats could not say who was controlling Paghman now, which was the scene of a fierce battle in July last year, but asserted that fighting there has resumed.

AFGHAN REBELS DECLARE NURESTAN FREE STATE

GF201258 Karachi DAWN in English 17 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] Peshawar, April 16 -- The Afghan mujahidin have declared the valley of Nurestan a free state, naming it the Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan Nurestan.

They have set up their own administration in the new valley state, which they have been controlling for the last year.

With the announcement of the new state on April 10, a majlis-i-shoora has been set up. Maulavi Mohammad Afzal, a spiritual personality, has been appointed prime minister of the new state.

Afghan nationals who have taken refuge in countries like Pakistan can enter the new state only when they undertake to adhere by the law of the state. However, all entry posts are being guarded.

The new regime has also included in its fold some Nurestani generals to properly face the dangers of military attacks stemming from nearby areas. -- PPI.

ERSHAD ISSUES ORDER 11 REPLACING BAR COUNCIL

BK161204 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 12 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad on Sunday [11 April] night issued the Martial Law Order No. 11, according to an official announcement in Dacca, reports BSS. Following is the full text:

In pursuance of the proclamation of the 24th March, 1982, and in exercise of all powers enabling him in that behalf, the chief martial law administrator is pleased to make the following martial law order:

1. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Bangladesh legal practitioners and bar council order, 1972 (P.O. No. 46 of 1972), hereinafter referred to as the said order, or in any other law for the time being in force:

A. On the commencement of this order, the Bangladesh bar council constituted over the said order, hereinafter referred to as the dissolved council, and all committees and tribunals constituted by that council shall stand dissolved;

B. All powers and functions of the dissolved council under the said order or under any other law for the time being in force shall be exercised and performed by a bar council, hereinafter referred to as the new council, consisting of the following members, namely:

I. The attorney general for Bangladesh, ex-officio; who shall also be its chairman;

II. Five members to be nominated by the attorney general from among advocates; and

III. Five members to be nominated by the chief justice of Bangladesh;

C. All funds and property of the dissolved council shall vest in the new council;

D. All proceedings pending before the dissolved tribunals shall stand transferred to the new council which may transfer the same to tribunals constituted by it.

2. The new council shall continue to function till the Bangladesh bar council is reconstituted in accordance with the provisions of the said order, and necessary measures in this respect shall be taken by it when the chief martial law administrator so directs.

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST FORMER DEPUTY PREMIER REPORTED

BK151700 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] Hearing in the first case against former Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Jamaluddin Ahmed under Clause 11 of Martial Law Regulation No. 1 of 1982 for corruption and criminal misconduct, concluded at the Special Martial Law Tribunal in Dacca on Monday, according to BSS. The five-member tribunal headed by Brigadier M. Mashahed Chowdhury heard arguments of both the prosecution and the defence counsels. The accused Mr. Jamaluddin Ahmed made a lengthy statement before the tribunal.

Asked by the chairman of the tribunal if he (Mr. Ahmed) feels guilty in view of the documents exhibited and evidence recorded in the tribunal Mr Jamaluddin Ahmed pleaded not guilty. But he confessed to have received the construction materials from different industrial units of the Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation for which he made no payment.

In his argument, the Chief Special Public Prosecutor and Deputy Attorney General Mr. Moazzem Hossain asserted that the accused, Mr. Jamaluddin Ahmed, had violated the normal procedure for allotment of the materials by not applying in the prescribed form.

This, he said, amounts to misuse of his (Mr. Ahmed's) official position as the then deputy prime minister. He also argued that at the same time, despite receiving deliveries for the items and the bills for them, no payment whatsoever was made. As such the accused committed an offence of corruption, the special public prosecutor asserted.

In his submission before the tribunal, the chief defence counsel, Mr. Abdul Malek, senior advocate, denied the charges and said that his client, Mr Jamaluddin Ahmed, did not commit any offence which was triable for misuse of official position.

During the four-day hearing, 13 prosecution witnesses and one court witness were examined and cross-examined before the tribunal.

Ahmed Sentenced

BK171115 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The five-member Special Martial Law Tribunal headed by Brigadier M. Mashahed Chowdhury has found Jamaluddin Ahmed, former deputy prime minister, guilty of corruption and criminal misconduct in the first case against him under Clause 11 of Martial Law Regulation No 1 of 1982.

The tribunal today convicted and sentenced Jamaluddin Ahmed to suffer rigorous imprisonment till the rising of the court and fined him taka 350,000 to be paid within 30 days or in default to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 1 year.

Later, the trial of Jamaluddin Ahmed and 11 other co-accused began at the Special Martial Law Tribunal under Martial Law Regulation No 1 of 1982 for corruption, criminal misconduct and abetment of criminal misconduct.

The chairman of the tribunal read out the charges to the accused persons who pleaded not guilty. Of the 11 accused, 8 were produced before the tribunal today. Two were absconding and one was stated by his lawyer to be sick and under treatment.

According to the prosecution, Jamaluddin Ahmed in collusion with the co-accused obtained for himself or for others pecuniary advantages to the tune of over taka 93 lakh and 82,000, abusing his official position. Jamaluddin arbitrarily reduced the then prevailing market price of (?plate) cuttings produced by the Chittagong steel mills from taka 7,351 to taka 5,500 per metric ton and ordered the sale of the huge quantity of (?plate) cuttings at the arbitrarily fixed price to the party selected by Jamaluddin Ahmed himself and thus caused financial loss to the state. The hearing of this case will begin at 1000 tomorrow morning.

Another case against Jamaluddin Ahmed and 11 co-accused also came up before the tribunal today. The case was deferred till the 24th of this month. The accused persons produced before the tribunal were remanded to custody. More than 20 lawyers, including Ataur Rahman Khan, appeared for the defense.

FORMER PETROLEUM MINISTER ORDERED TO REPORT

BK161718 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Lt Col (retired) Akbar Hossain, former minister for petroleum and mineral resources, has been directed to report to the martial law authorities within 10 days from 0800 of 17 April 1982. If he fails to report within this stipulated period, necessary action will be taken under the martial law regulation.

PRIME MINISTER GANDHI RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA

BK210302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Apr 82

[Text] The prime minister has said there is now a definite recognition in Saudi Arabia of the stability and progress in the Indian subcontinent. Mrs Gandhi was speaking to newsmen at Delhi Airport last night on her return from a 4-day visit to Saudi Arabia. In reply to a question, she said Pakistan's steps toward acquisition of sophisticated armaments including the F-16 and its attempts to manufacture nuclear weapons came up for discussion with the Saudi leaders, but only indirectly.

Replying to another question, she said she did not ask for any mediation of Saudi Arabia in solving problems between India and Pakistan. They are to be settled bilaterally, she added.

Mrs Gandhi described her visit as very useful and said it has opened a new chapter in the mutual relations between India and Saudi Arabia. There are vast possibilities of economic cooperation between the two countries. A group of Saudi businessmen and industrialists, who met her, expressed their desire to diversify trade with India.

A large number of ministers and members of Parliament were present at the airport to receive Mrs Gandhi.

NATIONAL HERALD QUESTIONS HAQ'S KASHMIR REMARKS

BK201213 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 17 Apr 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Zia's Whim"]

[Text] General Ziaul Haq, pretending to proffer the olive branch, with his no-war offer, is managing to find more points of discord with India than any of his predecessors. In a startling interview with an Indian journalist, duly relayed to the whole world by one of his controlled newspapers, he has claimed that Gilgit, Shardu and Hunza are not part of Kashmir at all. He has also made Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's offers of a friendship treaty and a joint commission subordinate to a discussion of the no-war offer. This is, if the world remembers aright, an about-turn from the position his country had taken when the offers were first made. Which is the correct posture of General Ziaul Haq's government and which a caricature of it? What is the guarantee that the general will not change his views again? The world and India are left on tenterhooks, much as his countrymen are left wondering about his particular whim at a particular time.

This would be amusing except for the fact that General Ziaul Haq is ruling, right on the borders of India, a country which is being armed with ultramodern weapons donated by a super power. It is also unfortunate that he has inherited a legacy of pointing donated weapons towards India. This, coupled with the uncertainty about his policy that he has created, must put India doubly on guard. While trying to figure out which is the true face of the general, we cannot take chances. One warning signal is the attempt to gobble up Hunza, Gilgit and Shardu. It is symptomatic of the disease of land hunger. If he is stricken by this disease, how can one be sure that his hungry eyes will stay fixed on these territories and not stray to other areas in the south and east?

SIKHS BEGIN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT IN EAST PUNJAB

GF200513 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 10 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, 9 Apr (APP/PPA) -- Responding to an appeal from the Akali Dal [Party], the Sikhs have started a civil disobedience movement in east Punjab.

Women members of the Akali Dal held demonstrations at the ground-breaking ceremony for the Jamuna-Sutlej canal. These women tried to break through the police cordon around Indira Gandhi, and as a result 35 women were arrested, including a woman member of the Indian Parliament. In 8 April, 27 Akali workers were arrested. The Akali Dal has issued a general appeal to resist the digging of the Jamuna-Sutlej canal, and has at the same time announced that a regular war has now begun between the Punjab and New Delhi. At an Akali Dal meeting in Patiala it was announced that a regular war between the Punjab province and New Delhi has now begun. Party President Harchand Singh Languwal has asked the general public not to pay taxes, nor repay government loans, and to resist the digging of the Jamuna-Sutlej canal. The Akali Dal made this announcement a few minutes after a statement by Mrs Gandhi, in which she had said that the Ravi-Bias agreement should be ended. The Sikhs began their demonstration soon after her speech. The prime minister on this occasion tried every means to enlist Punjab support for the canal project. She even went so far as to ask how she could injure Punjab when both her maternal and paternal grandmothers had come from there. Before this occasion, Indira Gandhi used to note that her daughter-in-law, Maneka Gandhi, also comes from the Punjab. However, after her relations with Maneka became strained, she started using her paternal and maternal grandmothers to make her point.

The Akali Dal has accused Indira Gandhi of aiming to bring economic ruin to Punjab by digging the canal. The chairman of the Sikh Shirumani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Sardar Charan Singh Thora, has said that the time has come to get what the Indian National Congress has been promising since 1929. And, he said, all this can be had by following the Anandpur resolution.

The opposition leader in the Punjab Assembly, Parkash Singh Badal, has said the time for polemics with the throne in Delhi has now passed. It is now time to satisfy our demands through the use of force.

According to the Jamuna-Sutlej canal project, the waters from these two rivers will pass through Hariana Province to the Maharashtra desert areas.

At the ground-breaking ceremony for the canal, police from both provinces were present to guard the meeting place. There were also federal policemen present. According to UNITED NEWS OF INDIA, despite tight security measures, rioting broke out at the ceremony. The rioting began when a group of women from the opposition party broke through the police cordon and tried to reach Mrs Indira Gandhi. The police arrested several women, including Rajindar Kaur, a member of the Indian Parliament.

Mrs Gandhi, in her speech, has said that the Punjabis should accept the canal project agreement signed by the three provinces involved in it.

The arrests further aggravated the situation, and the police succeeded in dispersing the crowd only after using tear gas. At this juncture, a group of extremist Sikhs held a separate meeting 3 miles from Kapuri, where the ceremony was being held, and announced a movement of civil disobedience. They threatened that now they will have the last fight with New Delhi. The Punjabi group opposes the canal project and believes it will reduce the status of Punjab as the breadbasket of India.

Today, 9 April, when Mrs Gandhi arrived in Kapuri, she was greeted with black flags, and when she pressed the button inaugurating the digging, 166 Akalis, including 41 women, came out of a Sikh temple waving black flags and shouting slogans against the Ravi-Bias canal agreement. [as published] At this point, the police fired teargas shells and made an indiscriminate battery charge. The police also arrested 64 members of the Akali Dal. In this demonstration, the Communist Party of India-Marxist also sided with the Akalis.

MIZO REBELS SURRENDER, SECURITY TIGHTENED

BK210903 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Apr 82

[Text] In Mizoram, 460 members of the outlawed Mizo National Front has surrendered to the authorities so far. All-India Radio Aijal correspondent understands that this accounts for more than half of the reported strength of the Mizo underground. More surrenders are likely to take place in the next few days. A police spokesman said in Aijal that security measures have been tightened throughout the union territory. Patrolling has been intensified in Aijal town.

INDIAN EXPRESS ON GANDHI'S POLITICAL FUTURE

BK190300 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 7 Apr 82 p 6

[S. Nihal Singh article: "The Nature of the Crisis"]

[Text] Mrs Gandhi is never better than when she is fighting with her back to the wall. Indeed, it can be argued that she needs a crisis to give of her best. Despite her seeming supremacy in the party and the country, her two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha and her men ruling most of the states, she is facing a crisis today.

Politics seldom follows a logical course, and certainly in India, crises have a habit of dissolving into nothingness, until the next crisis arrives to claim the nation's attention. And yet recent events would suggest that the nature of the present crisis is more menacing than she has faced before because it will not yield to clever tactical ploys or histrionics. Its roots lie deeper and need drastic surgery.

The parameters in which the game of politics is being played in India are now well defined. These are: Mrs Gandhi at the head of the royal family doing everything in her power to ensure the succession of her son Rajiv (the Maneka affair is a diverting, if unsavoury, aside); a ruling party peopled by some stalwarts who are about to bow out (much against their will) and any number of smart alecs with an eye on achieving power and making money; the Bharatiya Janata Party, the nearest thing to a credible alternative, sadly handicapped by its past and the support it gathers from the RSS; the Marxists, now in league with the Communist Party of India, hugging their strongholds in West Bengal and Tripura and hoping to return to power in Kerala; and regional parties, the most successful being the two versions of the DMK in Tamil Nadu, making a virtue of regional and linguistic distinctions to ensure power for themselves.

Mrs Gandhi can legitimately claim that despite sniping by the press and politicians, the people have accepted the concept of the royal family. (Indeed, a foreign observer has suggested that this system of monarchy suits India admirably). And in a revealing aside, Mrs Gandhi scoffed at the different family background of her daughter-in-law, indicating how deeply ingrained her feeling is of the right of the Nehru family (direct descendants only, not relations by marriage) to rule. The failure of the Janata experiment gave strength to India's royalty.

The succession is presenting problems for the moment, in view of Rajiv's seeming inability to play his new role with aplomb. But Mrs Gandhi surely hopes that with further grooming and the benefits of modern salesmanship, he will emerge as a credible successor. In any event, he has the most prized possession: being a Nehru.

Rather, Mrs Gandhi's major problems lie in her party -- what the Congress has become. It does not console her that she herself must share a large part of the responsibility for the shape taken by the party which bears her name. There were the demands of the situation in 1969 and 1978, goading her to force splits in the parent organisation and its successor, the emergency and Sanjay's untimely death. The last made much of the exercise of later years irrelevant while forcing Mrs Gandhi to live with the legacy of the recent past. Maneka's public defiance of her mother-in-law is a needling reminder of this legacy and the problems it has created.

There are then the dissatisfied segments of the Sanjay men left on the shelf of history. They have a nuisance value which Maneka is seeking to exploit. But a bigger problem for Mrs Gandhi is the successful breed of the Sanjay politicians, men picked up by him or patronised by him. They have consolidated their power base so remarkably well, through bribery, cajolings and threats, that even when traditional politicians are picked to rule, they do so at the Mafia's sufferance.

This is being strikingly demonstrated in Maharashtra, but is also true of Karnataka up to a point, and Bihar is not far behind. The secret of success of the Sanjay men is to weave a web of corruption and patronage which enmeshes a whole state, and since the ordinary MLA or congressman is loath to lose his sudden wealth and prestige, he will root for his benefactor until he is convinced that those days are over.

The new phenomenon at once imposes limitations on Mrs Gandhi's freedom of action, for though she can dethrone and install any number of chief ministers, the end result is the same. The new incumbent must either pay the Mafia's price to stay in power or prepare to depart. Corruption and similar charges are treated like specks of dust on a garment, to be flicked away.

Can Mrs Gandhi break out of this straitjacket, assuming that she wants to? In any case, she is always sensitive to constraints on her power. Apart from the fact that the central objective of nurturing these men -- the Sanjay succession -- has become irrelevant (Rajiv needs a new set), the redolent growth of the new breed is strangulating the party in an octopus-like grip. The worldwide phenomenon of corruption has a peculiar Indian twist.

Mrs Gandhi's dilemma is that these men are the only instruments she has to rule the states, the better men having gone over to the opposition or into the wilderness, and the old are, in any event, relics of history. Elections in the states-- at least two Congress-ruled states are to go to the polls soon -- provide one way out, but newcomers must be chosen tactfully because the powerful cannot be spurned for fear of defeat.

Mrs Gandhi is not shy of adopting unconventional or radical solutions if they help her achieve her objectives. But she needs to balance her new plan with the need for ensuring Rajiv's succession. As elections are held in the states, the complexion of the party can be changed, within the limits of political compulsions. But it is a process likely to take some years.

In the meantime and until Mrs Gandhi hits upon a new plan, she has no option but to find patchwork solutions to the recurring crisis in the states, making compromises and doing deals with the state bosses. Only when a specific case of corruption becomes a public issue does it merit her attention and, if unavoidable, retribution. Otherwise, it is accepted as a fact of life.

What radical solutions can she find? Her own preference for the French model of the presidential system is no secret, but changing over to it presents difficulties. Apart from the fact that her party does not have the required two-thirds majority in the Rajya Sabha, will the Congress legislators, in the ultimate analysis, resign themselves to having reduced powers? And how would the centre-states relationship come out in the new dispensation, with the states wanting more, not less, powers? The choice of the presidential candidate should give some indication of the shape of things to come.

Despite opposition fears, a second spell of internal emergency is unlikely because it would prove counter-productive, particularly in the context of anointing Rajiv. It seems more likely that other methods, like disciplining the dissident press, will be adopted through structural and legislative means.

Politics is the art of the possible, and Mrs Gandhi has, in a sense, become a prisoner of her own success in first consolidating power and recapturing it after having lost it. Morality does not often play a big part in politics, but a total divorce of the two, implicit in Mrs Gandhi's methods, leads to the kind of dilemmas she faces today.

That there is no credible alternative to Mrs Gandhi and her party, such as it is, ensures that she has some time to resolve her dilemmas and groom Rajiv. But the longer the present phase of Congress politics is allowed to last, the greater the cynicism it will breed among the people about the political process and the greater the cost to the administration of the country.

It stands to reason that the more politicians are occupied with ensuring their gaddis [preceding word published in italics] and distributing favours, the less time they will have in administering their states. What is more, the web of corruption vitiates the administration. Transferring thousands of junior civil servants in each state at legislators' bidding is only one example of the havoc politics can play with the administration. (It is a telling example of the limits of Mrs Gandhi's powers that she has had to content herself with administering a mild rebuke).

3-TIER RADIO BROADCASTING SYSTEM PLANNED

BK201717 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] All-India Radio plans to introduce a 3-tier broadcasting system -- the national channel, regional stations and local stations. A 1,000-kilowatt medium wave transmitter is being set up in Nagpur for the national channel. The existing regional transmitters will form the middle tier and six local stations to be set up to provide community service for specific areas. This was stated in the annual report of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It says the external service broadcasts are also being strengthened. A special plan has been prepared for extension of All-India Radio services in the northeastern region. The TV coverage was also being extended substantially.

BRIEFS

RAW JUTE TO USSR -- The Jute Corporation of India is to export 5,000 tons of raw jute to the Soviet Union. The contract valued at over 20 million rupees will be completed by July 1982. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Apr 82 BK]

IRON ORE TO MALAYSIA -- A contract has been signed by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation with an iron and steel company in Malaysia for the supply of 250,000 tons of iron ore per annum. The supply will be made for 3 years. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Apr 82 BK]

ARREST WARRANTS ISSUED FOR 2 UK JOURNALISTS

BK201645 Hong Kong AFP in English 1631 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] Islamabad, 20 Apr (AFP) -- A Pakistani court today issued a warrant for the arrest of two British journalists for "spreading a false account" of the final words of executed former Prime Minister Ali Bhutto.

(?Mark) Tully, the British Broadcasting Corporation's New Delhi correspondent and Chris Sherwell, FINANCIAL TIMES journalist, risk 3-year prison sentences, if caught, for violating Pakistan's telecommunications code against "spreading false news by telex."

At a court hearing a year ago in the men's absence, the prosecution said the two journalists had reported Mr Bhutto's last words before he was hanged on April 4, 1979 at 0200 as "My God, save me, I am innocent."

The prosecution produced evidence from six official witnesses, among them the executioner, who said Mr Bhutto was silent during the minutes before his death.

Mr Tully worked and lived in Pakistan during early 1981.

Mr Sherwell had had trouble in 1979 when preparing a story on nuclear research in Pakistan. He was beated up by unknown people in a street in Islamabad.

Official Pakistani media accused him of badgering Moslem women, which provoked passers-by to intervene.

SOOMRU HOLDS TALKS WITH YUGOSLAV DELEGATION

GF190506 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] During the past 4 and 1/2 years, $3.6 billion of capital investment has been approved for the private sector, which is four times greater than in the 5 years previous to the said period. This was disclosed by Elahi Bux Soomru, the minister of industry, in Islamabad during his talks with (Begenjar Dalkovic), member of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia. Soomru said the government is paying great attention to the revival of the private sector because this sector was nearly annihilated by the nationalization policies of the previous government. In this connection, Soomru said Pakistan is providing a great many facilities to domestic and foreign investors.

Regarding Pakistani-Yugoslav economic relations, Soomru said there are bright prospects for cooperation between these two countries in various sectors of the economy. He said several private firms in Pakistan, in cooperation with Yugoslav firms, have shown interest in several joint economic ventures within Pakistan.

(Begenjar Dalkovic), in reply to the minister, said Yugoslavia is ready to provide financial and technical aid to develop the copper mines at (Sanduk) in Baluchistan. He said Yugoslavia, besides providing training to Pakistani experts for this project, is ready to provide $100 million in financial aid as well.

(Begenjar Dalkovic) further said that Pakistan and Yugoslavia have close economic relations and that the visit of President Ziaul Haq to Yugoslavia for the purpose of strengthening friendship between the two countries created a very pleasant impression in his country. He expressed the hope that these relations will be further strengthened in the future. He stressed the need to point out new ventures in which both countries can cooperate.

USSR REPORTEDLY APOLOGIZES FOR BORDER INTRUSION

GF201632 Karachi DAWN in English 16 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] London, April 15 -- The Soviet Union has apologised to the Iranian Government for an incursion into Iran by Soviet and Afghan troops earlier this month, Iran's minister of Islamic guidance (information) said today.

The minister, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abdolmajid Ma'adikhah, told a press conference at the Iranian Embassy in London that the border incident had been a mistake.

On April 6, Soviet and Afghan troops intruded three miles (five km) into Iran at the point where the borders of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan meet. Authoritative sources said at the time that 50 Afghan mujahidin had been killed and an Afghan Government helicopter gunship shot down during the battle.

Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abdolmajid Ma'adikhah did not explain how and when the Soviet authorities had apologised for the border incursion carried out by Soviet troops pursuing Afghan mujahidin into Iran. The battle was never reported by Iran's official media, but parliamentary sources in Tehran told REUTERS a government delegation had gone to the eastern Iranian Province of Baluchestan to investigate the incident -- REUTER.

MEDIATION TEAM'S VIEWS FOUND INCOMPATIBLE

LD201244 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Labor and Social Affairs Minister and government spokesman Ahmad Tavakkoli took part in a press conference with domestic correspondents. The press conference was held at noon in the course of which he replied to questions by correspondents.

According to a Central News Unit correspondent, in commenting on the latest visit to Iran of the Islamic Conference delegation and the lack of compatibility of the delegation's views with those of the Islamic Republic, Tavokkoli said: If these brothers had identical views with Iran then they would side with Iran [as heard]. Ours is an Islamic stance. What we expect is that those intending to mediate had better come into closer contact with justice instead of mediating. Considering the victories achieved by our warriors in the war such contact would become even closer [as heard].

Referring to recent agreements signed by Iran and its subsequent policy regarding the friendly and neighboring countries, Tavakkoli said: From the very beginning, the Islamic revolution of Iran adhered to the policy of "Neither East nor West" and it will continue with this policy. All the blood being shed is for the sake of this policy. He added: All our treaties are directed toward upholding the slogan. Tavakkoli then said: We shall try to minimize the shah's plans which made Iran dependent. Of these plans, 86 percent dealt with the West. We shall try to replace the West with smaller and, particularly, Muslim countries.

In reply to a question about the measures taken by the judiciary with regard to [former Foreign Minister] Qotbzadeh, and the position the government is to adopt, the government spokesman said: The government's stand is the same as that of the nation and the judiciary. It is up to the judiciary to decide about offenders. He then continued: Faced with a nation so alert, a nation that is shedding its blood at the war fronts for the promotion of Islam, a nation that has already had 3,000 volunteers register to walk through minefields, a nation that will not allow anyone to harm its revolution, these insignificant agents do nothing more than disgrace themselves.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE'S CHATTI DEPARTS 20 APRIL

LD201636 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1520 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 20 Apr (SPA) -- Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization and head of the Islamic Good Offices Committee which has visited Tehran, stated that the committee will continue its discussions with the parties concerned until it secures results.

Before leaving for Abu Dhabi and Iraq today, Chatti said that the committee's mission has reached a stage whereby it is no longer possible for it to make any statements to the press on the contents of its discussions.

He expressed his hope that a peaceful solution would be reached for bringing about peace between Iraq and Iran. He added that more visits will be made since the question of the Iraqi-Iranian war was extremely grave and the Islamic world attaches great importance to it. He said that the committee's task was to bring the views of both sides closer together.

RAFSANJANI INTERVIEWED ON WAR SITUATION

LD210950 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 21 Apr 82

["Interview With Majlis Speaker" -- IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, 20 Apr (IRNA) -- Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said in Tehran today that the staff of the theological school of Qom were a group of religious scholars of high standing and that their views should be heeded in this respect. (The hojjat ol-Eslam was referring to a statement issued today by the Qom theological school calling for the official revocation Shari'atmadari's status as a religious authority.

Asked elsewhere in the interview about his opinion of the peace mission and its accomplishments so far, the hojjat ol-Eslam said that the visit to Iran by the mission had at least helped Iran make its voice heard in the world in connection with the imposed war. He said from the outset the Islamic Republic of Iran had not presented any unrealistic demands for ending the war, and that there was no room for negotiation. The Majlis speaker, noted, however, that in the course of talks so far the mission had come a little closer to understanding the facts with respect to the war and that it was gradually moving towards a more realistic stand but, he noted that still Saddam Husayn was evading a just peace with Iran since he knew fully well that "his submission to the legitimate demands of the Iranian people would render him incapable of justifying his invasion against the Islamic Republic of Iran...in which case it would mean the overthrow of ruling Ba'thist Party in Iraq."

Rafsanjani stressed, however, that "we do not consider useful the prolongation of the war and believe that it should end as soon as possible." But nothing was worse than the end of the war without the punishment of the aggressor, noted he. Mr. Rafsanjani stated that "it is our policy to reach the end of the war by giving the least casualties possible and through short-cuts so that the aggressor enemy forces would understand that we can inflict a blow upon them whenever we wish to," and he added that "if we are not given our rights we will gain them by force."

Emphasising that the countries of the region should have no fear from the side of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Majlis speaker stated that Saddam's downfall would be a natural consequence of the Iranian victory in the imposed war.

Commenting on recent statement by Saddam that he would withdraw his troops from Iranian territory "if Iran guaranteed that it would not advance in Iraqi territory," the Majlis speaker said that it was a pretext that Saddam wanted to resort to in order to save himself.

About Egypt's readiness to supply Iraq with aid in case Iran advanced in Iraqi territory, the hojjat ol-Eslam said that it was a hollow threat, adding that however Iran never intended to infiltrate the Iraqi territory unless it was to gain our rights, because the aggressors were now in Iranian lands and therefore Iranian troops could do so if they wished.

NVOI URGES IRAQ TO ACCEPT IRANIAN PEACE TERMS

TA202056 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Fath al-Mubin Operations and the Ruses of Imperialism"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The wide implication of the military operations of the Islamic Republic Army and the forces defending the revolution and the independence of Iran during the Fath al-Mubin operations is continuing in the world. This is a very natural thing because these operations have not only manifested revolutionary Iran's capabilities, but at the same time demonstrated that the Saddam regime that attacked our country can no longer hope and expect to receive assistance from anyone.

These operations demonstrated that for Iraq the only way of exit from the military adventures forced upon Baghdad by the foes of the Iranian and Iraqi nations is to accept our Islamic Republic's just conditions -- the unconditional withdrawal of its army from our homeland's territory, agreement to pay war reparations to Iran, and its condemnation as the aggressor. This development will aid in terminating the war -- a war that is neither in the interest of the Iranian nation nor the Iraqi nation, and only helps the fulfillment of the goals of U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

U.S. imperialism and Zionism want to sow discord in the front of Islamic and Arab countries. They want to trample on the gains of our nation's revolution and to undermine the anti-imperialist stance of the popular systems in our region. Both the Iranian and Iraqi nations are well aware that from the very outset this war was and remains in the interest of the United States, which has played the inauspicious role of instigator and initiator.

During the first months of the military operations the Americans flattered the Iraqi leaders and expressed joy at our country's temporary defeat. Western and U.S. mass media intended to convey the impression that this defeat was a consequence of the overthrow of the hated regime of the annihilated shah. However, when it became obvious that there was no hope of revolutionary Iran's military defeat they relied on the continuous diminishing of the reserves of both countries.

After the brilliant conclusion of the Fath al-Mubin operations, the enemies of our nation and the Iraqi nation resorted to another ploy. The U.S. propaganda organization spread and is spreading rumors to the effect that allegedly the victorious attacks of the Islamic Republic's Army have aroused concern among the so-called conservative Arab governments of our region. At the moment, too, it has started a provocative game over differences between these countries and our Islamic Republic. It is repeating the very nonsense to the effect that the differences between these countries and the Iranian Government are allegedly insolvable. The Americans are also spreading other rumors overtly and in an instigatory manner. Under the cover of a flood of news reports it has been reported from Washington that it is possible that America will reassess some of the articles in the law pertaining to the prohibition of the sale of U.S. arms to Iran as a country that allegedly encourages international terrorism.

They are also disseminating reports to the effect that Israeli Defense Minister Sharon has asked the Reagan administration, whether Tehran likes it or not, to strengthen the Iranian Army by the covert sale of arms to Iran or through a third country. The aim of all these rumors is nothing more than to encourage, to incite and to continue the war, and to provoke in order to continue the fratricide. Of course, in connection with this war, there is another policy and also another attitude in the international arena.

There are forces that detest provocation and who call upon the warring sides to sign an honorable and just agreement. These forces say that (?in the course of the war) both the Iranian and Iraqi nations have suffered great material damages and casualties, that this war will lead to further penetration by imperialism in the Middle and Near East, and that consequently a great danger will be posed to the peace of all the nations residing in this region. The supporters of peace and security in all nations demand an end to this war of attrition through negotiations -- negotiations that should lead to a lasting peace between the two countries and in the region.

We have talked about the positions of our Islamic Republic in this connection and all are aware of the conditions proposed by our country. Now it is Baghdad's turn, by gaining experience and by learning a lesson from its adventurous acts, to take serious and realistic steps toward terminating this war.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 861

LD201750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Communique 861 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The intrepid Muslim pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with guidance from the selfless personnel of the air defense command, at 0648 today shot down another three raiding enemy aircraft in the Abadan region. One of the enemy pilots was captured; his name is Capt (Khalil Ibrahim Mahmud). The total number of enemy aircraft downed by the fighters of the Air Force and antiaircraft units of the Armed Forces of the Ilamic Republic of Iran during the month of Farvardin [beginning 21 March] has reached 35.

The combatants of the Ground Forces and Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Abadan region fired on enemy positions on the opposite bank of the Arvand Rud, destroying six enemy trenches, two observation posts and several enemy weapon emplacements of various types. A number of Saddamists were killed during these operations.

On the other fronts in the southern parts of the country, our brave servicemen are carrying out their missions while defending their positions.

In the western part of the country our forces penetrated enemy positions in the Meymak and Salehabad regions, destroyed 10 enemy supply depots and killed or wounded 50 Saddamist servicemen. In the Sumar region they silenced enemy tank fire, putting an Iraqi tank out of action and killing or wounding five of its crew.

Fire on enemy positions and on a supply route in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region resulted in the destruction of an enemy vehicle.

Exchanges of fire continued in the Gilan-e Gharb region during which our artillery destroyed an enemy mortar, seven supply depots and two observation posts and killed a number of Saddam's soldiers.

Thanks to fire opened by Islam's forces on enemy deployments in the Ilam region, three enemy bunkers and observation posts in the Paveh area were destroyed.

On the western fronts, fire opened by the combatants of our gendarmerie destroyed an enemy heavy machinegun and large amounts of ammunition. Several enemy servicemen were taken prisoner.

Yesterday an Iraqi doctor and a soldier sought asylum at one of the border points in the western part of the country by surrendering to authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

GUARDS LAUNCH ATTACK ON CHANGULEH; POWS' REMARKS

LD202042 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] According to an IRNA report, the Public Relations Office of the Central Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced that in the course of bold guerrilla operations, the zealous tribesmen and meek mobilization combatants of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Ilam launched an attack early this morning on the Iraqi forces in the Changuleh region, killing or wounding dozens of Saddamist aggressors, destroying many of their trenches and capturing seven Iraqi servicemen.

According to the same report, the combatants of Islam captured large quantities of arms and ammunition from the enemy during this operation and then returned safely to base.

IRNA reports that an Iraqi serviceman who was captured during the operations by the combatants of Islam said:

The victories scored by the army of Islam and the repercussions of those victories among Iraq's soldiers, the humanitarian and Islamic behavior of the Iranian forces and in particular their decision not to bomb our residential areas and the pressure and injustices of the regime ruling Iraq have made the majority of the Iraqi people and military personnel realize the Islamic nature and righteousness of the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the lies of the Iraqi regime in connection with the war and the Iranian Government. The moment the first attack is carried out by the Iranian forces, Iraq's military personnel will surrender to the army of Islam. [sentence as heard]

In connection with the effect of the recent victories scored by the combatants of Islam on the fronts, another POW said:

The shortage of soldiers, particularly after the recent operations carried out by the combatants of Islam, which culminated in the killing, wounding or capture of thousands of Iraqi servicemen, is having an effect on the fronts. Iraq is reinforcing its forces on the fronts very slowly.

IRAQIS RETREAT FROM BOSTAN AREA TO KARKHEH KUR

LD202050 Tehran IRNA in English 1703 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 20 Apr (IRNA) -- Following the victorious Fath operations (on the first week of the new Iranian year beginning March 21) which resulted in the shattering of the Fourth Army of Iraq, the aggressor forces of Saddam were forces by the Islamic combatants of Iran to retreat from around Tang-e Chazzabeh, northwest of the border town of Bostan, and from the south bank of the Neysan River. According to reports, following this ignominous flight of the Iraqi Army the bodies of over 300 Iraqi soldiers killed during the operation were still scattered on the battle scene. The reports also indicated that so far the bodies of 38 Iraqi soldiers have been buried according to religious laws.

An Islamic revolutionary guards commander told IRNA that Saddam and his party's agents cared for their soldiers only so long as they were defending the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and whenever they were killed they would not bother themselves with burying them.

Simultaneously with the flight of Iraqi soldiers from Tang-e Chazzabeh, many light arms and munitions were seized undamaged. Also, the Iraqi aggressors were forced to retreat from the south bank of the Neysan River towards the south of the Karkheh Kur River. The report further stated that exchanges of artillery fire continued on both banks of Karkheh Kur today and several Iraqi soldiers were killed in a battle between a patrol group of the Islamic defenders and an enemy patrol group.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI ON REACTION TO COUP ATTEMPT

LD211034 Tehran IRNA in English 0923 GMT 21 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 21 Apr (IRNA) -- The morning daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, the official organ of the Islamic Republic Party, printed a leading article Wednesday entitled "Qom Theologians Announced Shari'atmadari's Incompetence as a Religious Authority." The paper also allocated several columns of its front page full ninth page [as received] to the coverage of the unprecedented support of people from throughout the country, mainly from Tabriz, 'Ajab Shir and Shiraz, for the recent statement of the society of professors of the Qom theological school, and Friday prayers leaders and ulema of Urumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Province.

In its ninth page, JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI also printed pictures of some 20 religious professors as well as religious and political personalities who have confirmed Shari'atmadari's incompetency. People's reaction towards the recent discovery of an abortive coup plot for the overthrow of the Islamic Republic has so far been unique and since the outbreak of the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran no other issue could have attracted people's attention to this extent.

The paper also reported on various statements released and on the marches to be held in the support of the Qom theologians' call for official revocation of Shari'atmadari's status as a religious authority. It said "in order to show their disgust of the vicious plot for the overthrow of the Islamic Republic, people of Urumiyeh will march today." JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI further added that through their marches and demonstrations, people throughout the country would show to the world that they would no longer and by no means become a tool in the hands of the U.S.

In its front page article, the daily has commented on the Tuesday statements by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the recent discovery of the coup plot.

The plot for the overthrow of the Islamic Republic was in the line of the CIA-inspired counterrevolutionary moves, said the Majlis speaker, adding that the Iranian nation, at any juncture of time would discover and annul such plots.

Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the leading figure involved in the plot, made confessions in a televised interview Monday night, implicated Shari'atmadari, revealing the plan underway by a group called "Saviours of the Iranian Revolution." Earlier, the religious judge of the Army Islamic Revolutionary Courts, Reyshahri, announced that if charges of Qotbzadeh and other leading figures of the group were proved in court proceedings, all would be sentenced to death. However, Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani stressed in Tuesday's press converence that Shari'atmadari at the least was culpable of withholding information on the case and for his indifference towards the issue. Because of this, such a person could not be a religious authority, he added.

Meanwhile the daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, referring to the statement issued by the students of theological schools in West and East Azarbayjan Province, noted that the statement called for the cut in Shari'atmadari's salary and said that it was a "sin" to receive such a money.

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT QOM SEMINARY STATEMENT

LD202234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that in connection with the revealing statement issued by the teachers of the Qom seminary today, Tehran's guild affairs committee has declared Wednesday, 21 April, to be a public holiday.

The guild's statement says in part that Iran's traders and bazaar merchants, who have been and will remain behind the clergy as a firm fortification, support the revelation made by the Qom seminary's teachers; declare Wednesday as a day of solidarity with the Qom seminary teachers; renew their allegiance to the imam of the nation; stand behind the imam with their belongings and blood as firm as a rock; and will support the Islamic revolution with their last drop of blood and will suppress the conspirators in any shape or form.

Today a large group of Firuzabad's committed and Islamic Republican Party inhabitants and the region's tribesmen staged a glorious and unprecedented march, during which they condemned the criminal act of the treacherous Qotbzadeh and the pseudoclergy.

IRNA has reported from Tabriz that following the statement issued by the Qom seminary teachers, a group of Tabriz Muslim and Islamic Republican Party inhabitants today staged a march, chanting slogans against Mr Shari'atmadari and expressing their support for the Qom seminary teachers' statement.

According to the same report, the committed and Muslim inhabitants of 'Ajab Shir today staged an extensive march, during which they chanted slogans against the outlawed Muslim People's Party and Mr Shari'atmadari, and expressed their unreserved support for the Qom seminary teachers' statement. It is worth mentioning that the 'Ajab Shir region was one of the outlawed Muslim People's Party's most prominent bases.

The inhabitants, preachers and clergy of Salamas assembled in the city's mosques today and declared their support for the decision declaring Mr Shari'atmadari as religiously incompetent and severely condemning the recent conspiracy.

According to the Central News Unit, the Qom bazaar's Islamic associations issued a statement today in which they expressed their revulsion at the conspiracy and their support for the Qom seminary teachers' statement. The associations urged the Supreme Court to make a speedy investigation into the issue and to try all those involved in the coup conspiracy.

According to the Central News Unit, Tabriz clergy issued a statement in which they requested the ever-present Hezbollahi in Azarbayjan to participate in a march on 21 April and to show the colonialists and their internal elements a clenched fist.

The Islamic revolution foundations and Tabriz guild's Islamic associations also threw their support behind the Qom seminary teacher's statement by issuing their own statements in which they asked the Muslim and committed inhabitants of Tabriz to participate in tomorrow's march.

Ayatollah Malakuti, the imam's representative in East and West Azarbayjan and Friday imam of Tabriz, also issued a statement in which he condemned the pseudoclergy and counter-revolutionary elements in the recent conspiracy. He also invited the Muslim and brave inhabitants of Tabriz to take part in the 21 April march, which will be staged in support of the Qom seminary teachers.

SHIRAZ MARCHERS CONDEMN QOTBZADEH, 'COMPANIONS'

GF201752 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] A number of united people, Hebollahi of Shiraz and Firuzabad, and tribesmen of the region participated in a march in Shiraz this afternoon. They condemned the coup attempted by the traitor Qotbzadeh and his companions. They announced in a resolution that they will defend the imam to the last drop of their blood and will fight the hypocrites and agents of the United States.

CLANDESTINE REPORTS BOMBING NEAR JAMARAN

GF191744 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Tehran that two powerful bombs exploded in the vicinity of Khomeyni's residence in Jamaran last Thursday.

There is no report about the number of casualties. The correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran reports that many of Khomeyni's revolution guards were presumably killed in the explosions. The reason for not reporting the explosions is to stop scaring Khomeyni's entourage.

Our correspondent also reports that houses around Khomeyni's residence were rocked and that window panes were broken as far as 500 meters away.

VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS CLASHES IN KORDESTAN

NC170813 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] A Voice of Iran correspondent has reported that once again clashes between state revolution guards and antiregime Kurds in northwestern Iran have spread to Kurdish-inhabited cities. Reports indicate that following the killings in Sanandaj and Bukan, the city of Mahabad was shaken by a strong explosion year the Mahabad mosque on Thursday. The explosion smashed the windows of the mosque and of adjacent buildings, (?but no one was killed). This report also states that the Thursday explosion in Mahabad [words indistinct].

Statements have been distributed during the night in Mahabad warning the revolution guards and elements of the regime that if the killing of Kurdish [word indistinct] villagers is not stopped, their bases will be blown up. The Tehran state radio, broadcasting reports on the Mahabad explosion with a delay of more than 24 hours, claimed that the [words indistinct] was planted in the eastern wing inside the mosque.

REGIME OPPONENT REPORTEDLY ARRESTED, EXECUTED

GF181942 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Ahmad Bani-Ahmad, the leader of "Ettehad Bara-ye Azadi" [Unity for Freedom], who lives in France, said: Khomeyni's guards arrested Dr Manuchehr Amiri, chief of the "Ettehad Bara-ye Azadi" group in Tabriz, shot him and threw his body on the side of the Tehran-Tabriz highway.

NVOI ASSAILS VIOLATION OF POLITICAL FREEDOMS

TA201458 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Not Present an Ugly Face of the Islamic Revolution Through Improper Acts"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: One can hardly find a person among the leaders of the revolution and the authorities in our homeland that has not yet talked of the necessity of observing the law and respecting the political and social freedoms of the people, parties and organizations committed to the revolution, or has not stressed this vital point. The imam of the nation and leader of the revolution, founder of our Islamic Republic, has repeatedly said that in Islam dictatorship is the greatest sin.

One can cite numerous examples of statements by the leaders of the revolution and the government figures of our country in this connection. However, unfortunately, so far not only do the offices of committed parties and organizations that defend the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line, and that support all of the Islamic government's measures in implementing fundamental reforms, remain occupied by unauthorized individuals, but their newspapers and publications are also being banned one after the other.

Which hands, by resorting to particular ploys, are violating the freedoms stipulated in the country's Constitution, contrary to all the promises and statements of the highest officials of our country? If telling the truth, constructive criticism and exposing the mistakes of this minister or that official who talks and acts without responsibility is a crime, then tell the people frankly. Otherwise, what name can be placed on such an incorrect and unprincipled attitude by some of the authorities toward parties and organizations that support the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line?

We deem it appropriate to once more bring to the attention of officials and authorities the following passage from an editorial in JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI: But a worse sin is that by our improper acts which are devoid of Islamic tradition and mores we present to the people an ugly face of Islam and of our Islamic revolution. Should we do this, without doubt we will be unable to continue the path of the revolution; and, if we show incompetence, those who will come after us to introduce Islam and the genuine Islamic ideals to the people of the world will not be given an opportunity.

PAKISTANI DELEGATION CONCLUDES TALKS IN TEHRAN

Meeting With Musavi

LD181820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Pakistan's minister of finance who is visiting Iran at the head of a delegation, met and conferred this afternoon with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. Pakistan's ambassador in the Islamic Republic of Iran assisted the Pakistani minister in this meeting and the prime minister was aided by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Iran's ambassador in Islamabad.

Addressing the meeting, Prime Minister Musavi stressed the importance of such exchanges of visits as a means of promoting unity among the Muslim nations. The prime minister said: There are many common (?aims) which link the people of Iran and Pakistan to the extent that our nation never assumes itself to be a separate nation from that of Pakistan. In our foreign and economic policies we pursue a policy of expanding our relations with the Muslim nations as the first priority and expansion of ties with the Third World countries as our second priority.

The prime minister added: During a visit recently made to Iran by a Turkish delegation, we discussed the necessity of creating an Islamic common market. Although we cannot achieve this immediately, nevertheless, steps prior to such creation can prepare the ground for the realization of such a common market.

Oil Cooperation Talks

LD181230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan, who is leading an economic delegation from Pakistan, with several members of his delegation has met and conferred with Petroleum Minister Gharazi and members of the Iran-Pakistan oil cooperation committee.

At this meeting, the fraternal and Islamic relations between the two countries were stressed and the point about implementing the oil agreements between the two countries was reviewed.

Iranian Oil Minister Gharazi said at this meeting that an agreement regarding the delivery of 10,000 barrels of oil per day to Pakistan has been prepared. This can be increased to 20,000 barrels per day on Pakistan's request. We hope that trade between the two countries will soon pass the $500-million mark. He added that the exchange between the two countries is not just a question of trade, but of the general relations between two nations. About Iran's oil-prospecting help in Pakistan, Mr Gharazi said that we will use all our facilities, talents and capital in this respect.

Oil Cooperation Agreement

LD181828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following talks between Iranian and Pakistani economic delegations, Pakistan's Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, accompanied by Pakistani Petroleum Ministry under secretaries, met at noon today with Petroleum Minister Gharazi at the Petroleum Ministry club.

At the conclusion of this meeting, the two sides signed an economic protocol on the basis of which Pakistan will purchase 10,000 barrels of crude oil per day from Iran. The two sides also agreed to continue their cooperation in field drilling, exploration and exploitation. The Islamic Republic of Iran's Petroleum Ministry will send its drilling experts to Pakistan to help that country.

Economic Cooperation Protocol

LD192300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that following discussions between a Pakistani economic delegation and officials of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a protocol was signed today on economic, commercial, roads and transportation, banking and oil affairs and also long-term commercial agreement and cooperation accords concerning the oil industry.

Commerce Minister Mr Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi and Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Pakistani minister of finance, commerce, planning and provincial cooperation, signed the protocol of agreement and the treaty. After signing this agreement, the Pakistani minister expressed his gratitude for the mutual understanding which has resulted in the signing of such an agreement and treaty, and said he regarded it as a sign of the sincerity and the depth of understanding between Iran and Pakistan.

In a short speech Commerce Minister Mr 'Asgar-Owladi also expressed his hope that close relations and commercial and economic cooperation between the fraternal nations of Iran and Pakistan will be further expanded.

The Pakistani economic and commercial delegation also visited today Sa'babad Palace, in which some examples of the satanic era are kept. This delegation then left for Behesht-e Zahra and paid its respect to the martyrs of the Islamic revolution by placing flowers on their graves.

Departure of Delegation

LD201203 Tehran IRNA in English 1045 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 20 Apr (IRNA) -- The Pakistani finance minister, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, who had come to Iran heading an economic mission, left Tehran for Pakistan this morning. On his departure, he talked about the agreements reached with the Iranian officials in various economic fields.

Following the conclusion of friendly agreements during Velayati's trip to Islamabad, the Pakistani delegation came to Iran. According to the agreement, Pakistan will receive oil as well as various long-term oil services, including exploration services, in return for imports of wheat and rice from Pakistan. The Pakistani deputy oil minister, Nasiruddin Mohammad, told reporters that an Iranian oil mission is due to visit Pakistan within the next 2 weeks.

Commerce Minister Interviewed

LD201316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Apr 82

[Excerpts] The Pakistani finance minister and the delegation accompanying him left Tehran today at the conclusion of economic talks between Iran and Pakistan. Our correspondent reports on the economic agreements reached by the two countries:

At the end of the talks between the Pakistani delegation and the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a letter of agreement concerning annual trade exchange between the two countries, a letter of agreement on a 5-year trade exchange which can be extended to 10 years, a protocol on oil sales and oil cooperation and also documents regarding banking facilities between the two countries were signed. Documents on trade relations between Iran and Pakistan were signed by Mr 'Asgar-Owladi, our country's commerce minister, and Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the Pakistani minister of finance, commerce, planning and provincial cooperation. With the completion of economic talks between Iran and Pakistan that country's economic delegation left Tehran today.

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr 'Asgar-Owladi, would you please tell us what the volume of our trade exchange with Pakistan is at present and by how much it will be increased as a result of these agreements?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The agreements reached between us will increase the trade exchange between the two countries to $400 million; this is unprecedented in ordinary trade relations between two countries. In the near future we will send a delegation to Pakistan and this delegation will study a number of other avenues and have discussions with our Pakistani friends and thus the level of trade exchange between the two countries will increase to about $600 million this year. We talked about long-term agreements with our brother country of Pakistan and our other **brothers** [as heard].

[Question] Does this $600 million include oil sales as well?

[Answer] Of course, since we have special calculations for our trade exchange it includes oil sales as well [as heard].

[Question] What goods other than oil can Iran export to Pakistan and what steps have you taken in this regard?

[Answer] The goods we can export to Pakistan are quite varied but since our brothers have some problems regarding foreign exchange, we decided that our oil exports should be increased as much as possible for now. Later, they will give us a list of goods they need and then we will be able to export those goods.

[Question] In that case oil is the main export item?

[Answer] Yes, that is right.

[Question] Have you discussed border exchanges through Sistan va Baluchestan?

[Answer] I should say that overland trade exchange has doubled and we are studying the possibility of increasing it even more than this in the interests of both countries and of the border inhabitants on both sides. Up to now we have agreed to double our border trade exchange. [end recording]